



BUENA VISTA AUDUBON
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

BUENA VISTA AUDUBON SOCIETY HOT SPOT BIRDING COSTA RICA Part 2 (a little off the beaten path) July 10- 22, 2017

Once again, BVAS invites you as novice, casual and life-list birders to our Second Costa Rica trip! We have teamed up with Costa Rica Sun Tours to bring to you a trip designed to hit at least 3 key birding hot spots (different from our January 2017 Program).

While birds are our main aim, with a little more time at each destination, we will be able to explore the biodiversity of each area. Our goal is to explore the waterways of the Caribbean lowland (Tortuguero) to the Caribbean foothills (Rancho Naturalista) to the Cloud forests of Monteverde. Along the way, we will see orchids, frogs, turtles (maybe) monkeys, iguanas, butterflies, sloths, bats and crocodiles. Summer is a great time to see Humming birds up close and personal.

We have arranged to have an excellent local Costa Rican birding guide with us on all of our adventures. He/she will have scope available. In addition, at critical places like Tortuguero we will be joined by a resident guide who knows the terrain well and can explain more about the National Park its rich bio diversity, which is one of the most complex ecosystems in Tropical America, research taking place and of course will help us to find some cool birds.

The itinerary includes most meals, all park entrance fees, boat tours, and of course hotels. With a bit more time in each place we will have time to relax, shop and connect with the rich bio diversity of Costa Rica.



Itinerary – July 10-22

For the next 12 days our group will be accompanied by one of the top birding guides to ensure a memorable trip and a great list of birds. We will be traveling in our own comfortable bus. The cost includes all indicated transportation and guide services accommodations and meals as indicated: **B**=breakfast, **L**=lunch, **D**=dinner.

July 10 arrive in Costa Rica. There will be a representative from Costa Rica sun tours to welcome you after you clear customs and get your luggage.

Hot Spot Birding Costa Rica Itinerary – July 10-22

July 10 B

1 night at the Don Carlos Hotel <http://doncarloshotel.com/>

- This is our arrival hotel. Located in the historic area of San Jose this hotel provides all the basics for our arrival in San Jose and departure to Tortuguero the following morning.
- Open spaces are an art gallery of Costa Rican artists.

July 11-12 BLD

2 nights at Laguna Lodge <http://www.lagunatoruguero.com>

- Early morning departure
- On our way to Tortuguero we will enjoy a scenic drive through Braulio Carillo National park and make our way to the river boat that will take us to Laguna Lodge
- Laguna Lodge is built on a small strip of land between Tortuguero's main canal and the Caribbean Sea.
- **Excursions:** Private Boat tour, Afternoon visit to the town of Tortuguero. Frog pond on site. Optional Sea Turtle nesting tour

July 13-16 4B, 3L 4D

4 nights at Rancho Naturalista Lodge <http://ranchonaturalista.net>

- Rancho is a world class birding site with plenty of activities and lots of birds. And the food is outstanding.
- **Excursions:** Guayabo National Park combine birding and a bit of archeology. La Mina river walk, morning moth sheet, hummingbird pools and much more.

July 17-BLD

1 night at Hotel Chayote Lodge <http://www.chayotelodge.com/chayote.html>

- To break up the long day from Rancho to Monteverde we are excited to have this overnight stop along the way. With its scenic views of the central valley and great food, it's a terrific stop over
- **Excursions:** Bajos Del Toro Waterfall and Zarcero Town

July 18-20 BL

3 nights Monteverde Hotel Fonda Vela <http://www.fondavela.com>

- With some great hikes we will be rounding out our bird lists.
- Santa Elena the town close by the reserve is great for last minute shopping.
- **Excursions:** Selventura Walkways, Curi-Cancha Reverse, Monteverde butterfly gardens., Monteverde Reserve walk.

July 21 DB

1 night at the Hotel Bougainvillea- <http://www.hb.co.cr/en/>

- Over 10 acres of gardens, ponds and home to over 60 species of birds.
- Wake up to a chorus of bird song with the Clay Colored Thrush, Blue Gray Tanager and with a little luck the resident Blue Crowned Motmot.

Rate based on a maximum group size of 8 trip participants and double room occupancy \$2970. Single room supplement is \$545.

For further information or to sign up, please contact me at:

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